executing commands on the at least one microcontroller which manage and diagnose system functions.

Please add Claims 3-21 as follows:

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein providing an information pathway further includes providing a request and response buffer storing messages between the network of microcontrollers and the specific memory addresses.

4. The method of Claim 1, additionally comprising providing a client computer connected to the computer, wherein the execution of commands are initiated by the client computer.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes altering the speed of a system fan.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes reading the temperature of a sensor.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes writing a message to a display.

8. The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes checking the state of a microcontroller bus.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes checking for the presence of a canister containing adapter slots.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes checking a system voltage.

11. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising increasing the speed of a fan in the computer when the temperature of the computer exceeds a threshold temperature.

12. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising checking for the presence of a power supply.

13. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising enabling the writing of flash memory with a new basic input/out system (BIOS) program.

14. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising sending a message to a system log.

15. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising sending notification of a system fault to the central processing unit.

16.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising disabling power to a canister that is connected to the computer.

17.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising enabling power to a canister that is connected to the computer.

18.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising updating a watchdog timer that is maintained by the microcontroller network.

19.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising interconnecting the microcontroller network with an I^2C bus.

20.   A method of monitoring environmental conditions in a computerized environment, the method comprising:

        creating a request message which identifies one or more environmental conditions of the computerized environment;

        sending the request message from a requestor to a microcontroller network which manages the environmental conditions;

        obtaining status of the conditions identified by the request message;

        creating a response message which reports the status; and

        sending the response message from the microcontroller network to the requestor.

21.   The method of Claim 20, wherein the requestor is a central processing unit.

REMARKS

By this paper, Claim 1 has been amended and Claims 3-21 have been added. Favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited. Should there by any issues which can be resolved by